

buried with full military honors in Arlington National Cemetery.

In attendance for the November 11th ceremony will be General Potts's wife, Peggy; his sons, Colonel Gary Potts, who is currently serving in Afghanistan, Neil Potts, a former Army Captain, Airborne Ranger, Special Forces, now a restaurateur in Dallas, and their respective families. The General's only surviving sibling, Irene Morris of Columbia, will also be in attendance.

The ceremony will include color guards from the Vanderbilt University Army Reserve Officer Training Corps, the Tennessee State Guard, Spring Hill Junior Army ROTC and the Columbia Central Junior Navy ROTC.

TRINITY RAILWAY EXPRESS— TRIBUTE TO HURRICANE VOLUNTEERS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 27, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute those individuals and organizations that opened their hearts and dedicated both financial and emotional support to the evacuees of Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita. All of the states along the Gulf Coast have endured terrible hardships during this hurricane season, and I know that the generosity of North Texans played a vital role in bringing some peace into their lives.

Today, I want to specifically thank one company and their donation. Trinity Railway Express helped senior citizens and other residents of the Houston-Galveston area flee from Hurricane Rita. They donated their time and equipment when it was most needed.

TRE is a service provided jointly by Dallas Area Rapid Transit and the Fort Worth Transportation Authority and it links downtown Fort Worth, downtown Dallas and DFW Airport.

I stand here today to sincerely thank Trinity Railway Express for their help and donation. It is people like them that I am proud to call fellow Texans. Through their contribution, they not only stand as devoted and giving American citizens, but they serve as an inspiration to others.

HONORING THE MONASTERY OF THE GLORIOUS CROSS AS THEY CELEBRATE THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 27, 2005

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to join the Benedictines of Jesus Crucified of the Monastery of the Glorious Cross as they celebrate their 50th Anniversary—a milestone for this community of nineteen.

Seventy-five years ago, Father Maurice Gaucheron, a priest on the staff of the Basilica of Montmatre in Paris and Suzanne Wrotnowska, the future Mother Marie des Deouleurs, began plans to open the doors of monastic life to women who, though interested

in pursuing this path, were unable to do so due to their fragile health. From the very beginning, the Monastery of the Holy Cross formed on the Rule of Saint Benedictine which emphasizes a listening heart, obedience, silence, and humility. In 1930, during a Mass celebrated in the crypt of Montmatre, Mother Marie des Douleurs and the first sisters were consecrated and their journey began.

The Monastery of the Glorious Cross in Branford, Connecticut was established just fifty years ago and is the only order of the Benedictines of Jesus Crucified in the United States. Houses of worship play a critical role in all of our communities. It is to these walls that so many turn in times of their greatest need. The Congregation at the Monastery of the Glorious Cross has always opened its doors to those in need of spiritual guidance and comfort. The public is welcomed to celebrate their daily Mass, the community sponsors a monthly day of recollection, and they also provide Mass cards and spiritual bouquets. It has been through their generosity and compassion that the Monastery of the Glorious Cross has become a local treasure. Every community should be so fortunate.

Today, as they celebrate their Golden Jubilee, the Sisters of the Monastery of the Glorious Cross will reflect on their own history as well as all that they have given to our community. It is my great pleasure to join Sister Mary Agatha, the Superior of the community, and all of the sisters of the Monastery of the Glorious Cross as they celebrate this very special occasion. I am honored to extend my deepest thanks and appreciation to them for all of their good work.

HONORING MR. FRANK D. LINN, SR ON HIS 50TH ANNIVERSARY AS SANTA CLAUS

HON. TIM HOLDEN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 27, 2005

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Frank D. Linn, Sr. of Lower Swatara Township, Middletown, Pennsylvania as he celebrates fifty years of selfless and heartfelt service to the children and families of Dauphin County, Pennsylvania as Santa Claus.

Mr. Linn has given of his time and effort making thousands of children happy as "The Jolly Old Man with the Beard" since 1955. Acting as Santa in a shopping center and at private home parties, he also spreads the spirit of the holidays making visits and toy deliveries to around seventy-five homes at Christmastime.

A graduate of Central Dauphin High School, Mr. Linn has been employed with the House of Representatives, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the past forty-three years serving as Specialist in Intergovernmental Affairs to the Speaker of the House for Speaker Matthew J. Ryan and currently Speaker John M. Perzel. He has also devoted his time to the Lower Swatara Lions Club and the Middletown Area Red Cross as well as multiple local athletic teams, boy scouts troops, and fire companies.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to be able to recognize a man who has been committed to bringing joy to the people of my district for fifty

years. I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Frank D. Linn, Sr. on fifty years of devoted service as our local Santa Claus and thank him for the many contributions he has made toward the well being of the citizens of Pennsylvania.

TRIBUTE TO STATE REPRESENTATIVE TOMMY CARTER

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD), CRAMER JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 27, 2005

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Alabama State Representative Tommy Carter. Representative Carter has represented Limestone County in the Alabama State Legislature for thirty-six years. He plans to retire from public service at the conclusion of his current legislative term in 2006.

I consider it a privilege to have worked with Representative Carter on a wide variety of issues facing Limestone County. He has done a great deal to help further the quality of life for all individuals in our community.

During his many years of service in the State Legislature, Representative Carter was elected by his peers to numerous legislative leadership positions. Most notably, he served as the Chairman of the House Rules Committee for over twelve years. Representative Carter currently serves on the Education Finance and Appropriations Committee and the Agriculture and Forestry Committee.

Mr. Speaker, Representative Carter is well respected throughout our local community and the entire State of Alabama. He is a past recipient of the Athens Limestone County Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year Award and was the Conservationist of the Year Award winner in 1978. Representative Carter is also a former Scout Master and member of the Alabama National Guard.

After he steps down from the Alabama State Legislature, he will continue to serve on the Board of Directors for Community Bank and Athens State University Foundation Board.

Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, October 27th, the North Alabama community gathered to honor and celebrate all of Representative Carter's achievements. I rise today, to join in their celebration and to thank Representative Carter for his many years of dedicated service.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO JEANETTE CANTRELL RUDY—HEALTHCARE PHILANTHROPIST

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 27, 2005

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the birthday of a dear friend and a distinguished member of the Nashville community, Mrs. Jeanette Cantrell Rudy. Mrs. Rudy is a generous philanthropist, an accomplished sportswoman and a true friend to many in Tennessee and across the nation. She celebrates her 78th birthday on October 27th, 2005.

When you look at everything Jeanette has accomplished in a mere 78 years, it is clear she is a woman of fierce commitment, incomparable energy and true generosity. As someone fortunate to have worked with Jeanette on various community initiatives, I can tell you there is no one you would rather have on your team when you launch a new project.

Born October 27th, 1927 in Sheffield, Alabama, Jeanette enrolled in the Saint Thomas Hospital School of Nursing in Nashville following high school graduation. She received her nursing degree in 1948. That occasion changed her life—along with the fact that she also met her future husband, Mr. Daniel Clees Rudy, about this time.

Daniel Clees Rudy, cofounder of the Rudy's Farm Sausage Company, and Jeanette married on February 20th, 1949. The Rudys made their home in the Pennington Bend area on the Cumberland River until Mr. Rudy's death in 1984.

Jeanette served her community as a public health nurse for seven years. But that was just the beginning to her commitment to better health care for all of Nashville. In memory of her late husband, Jeanette helped to establish and fund the Dan Rudy Cancer Center at Saint Thomas Hospital in 1985. Also in 1985, Jeanette and her sisters, founded the Felix A. and Edna L. Cantrell Endowment Fund in honor of their parents. This special endowment has helped a host of nurses reach their educational goals and advance in the nursing field. A long-time supporter of the nursing program at Cumberland University in Lebanon, Tennessee, Jeanette was recognized for her efforts with an honorary doctorate of humanities from Cumberland University in 1990.

In addition to her commitment to public service, Jeanette is a passionate hobbyist. She has assembled the finest privately held collection of State and Federal duck stamps, including the very first stamp issued in 1934. Jeanette served as a judge of the Federal duck stamp competition in Washington, D.C. in 1992. In 1996, the Smithsonian Institution established, in her honor, the Jeanette Cantrell Rudy Duck Stamp Gallery at the National Postal Museum.

Jeanette's energy and zest for life do not stop there. An avid sportswoman, she held the title of Ladies State Trapshooting Champion for nine years, was named to the women's all-American trap team twice, and has been an ardent hunter and angler since 1949 over much of North America. Jeanette has also spent endless hours helping many organizations and educational institutions in Middle Tennessee. She served on the boards of Cumberland University, the Saint Thomas Hospital Auxiliary, the Saint Thomas Foundation and the Nashville Zoo, and she is a major supporter of the Nashville Police and Fire Department and the National Police Memorial in Washington, DC.

She is the recipient of the 1992 Seton Medal for her service to patients of Saint Thomas Hospital. She authored a book, "A Bend in the Cumberland," which traces the history of the Pennington Bend area, where, for many years, her husband and his brother operated the Rudy's Farm Sausage Company. And, now, as a Commissioner of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency since 2001, Jeanette is dedicated to raising funds for projects that will help preserve, conserve and enhance Tennessee's population of fish and wildlife.

Jeanette's devotion to public service and her long-standing advocacy for nursing are truly remarkable. I thank this spirited American for her unwavering compassion and desire to make life more positive for others in her community.

Today, I join my distinguished colleagues—Representatives BART GORDON and JOHN TANNER—and all Tennesseans in congratulating and extending our warmest and best wishes to Jeanette Cantrell Rudy for a happy 78th birthday. Jeanette, may you have many more rewarding and life-enriching experiences ahead.

WILDERNESS CHALLENGE

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 27, 2005

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, October 8, 2005 46 teams of active-duty men and women from military installations around the U.S. converged in West Virginia's Gauley and New River Gorge to compete in the sixth annual "Wilderness Challenge." I am proud to have such an event in West Virginia that allows our armed forces the chance to display their skills of physical endurance and of course, bragging rights. There is not a better place to host the Wilderness Challenge than the New River Gorge National Park. It has superb overlooks, historic scenery, rugged Appalachian trails and peaceful valley flats, not to mention the world class whitewater. Rafting the waters is no easy task, as one could imagine by the names of some of our rapids such as "Big Nasty", "Even Nastier" and "Heaven's Doors," just to name a few.

The Challenge begins with a 20-mile mountain bike race which precedes a half-mile swim on the Lower Gauley River, and ends with each team tackling a 13-mile stretch of Class III to V whitewater. The next day the competitors start with a run, paddle a section of the New River in inflatable rubber kayaks called "duckies," and finish with a 14-mile hike that entails the steep slopes of the New River Canyon. The whole event is sponsored by a whitewater outfitter Class VI River Runners, which supplies the event with the rafts and equipment used in the outdoor extreme sports match.

It is really a pleasure for me to see such a group of well trained, highly motivated soldiers compete. I know that there is friendly competition between the branches of service and West Virginians as well as all Americans hold them all in the highest regard.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 27, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, due to an excused absence, I missed 3 rollcall votes on the night of Tuesday October 25, 2005. I would like to enter into the record how I would have voted if I had been able to attend the session:

On H.R. 3675, the American Spirit Fraud Prevention Act, I would have voted "yea."

On H. Con. Res. 269, a resolution recognizing the 40th anniversary of the White House Fellows Program, I would have voted "yea."

On H.R. 3256, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3038 West Liberty Avenue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, as the "Congressman James Grove Fulton Memorial Post Office Building," I would have voted "yea."

CONGRATULATIONS FOR ABINGTON

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 27, 2005

Mr. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, as the proud congressional representative of Abington Township, a township that was recently named one of the 100 best communities for young people by America's Promise—the Alliance for Youth.

The Alliance for Youth and its Founding Chairman, General Colin Powell, launched this first-ever national competition to pay tribute to the communities working to empower and advance our Nation's youth. And, there is no doubt that Abington Township worked hard to earn this honorable distinction.

I have had the privilege of representing Abington; first from my seat in the Pennsylvania State Senate and now as a member of Congress. Over the years, I have seen first-hand the community's unity, especially when it comes to advancing the lives of its young people.

Together, Abington's school district, police department, community organizations, businesses, and residents have worked hand-in-hand to create an environment that embraces its young residents. They've established the Abington Community Taskforce, which is comprised of parents, caregivers, religious and civic leaders and has launched programs to teach effective parenting skills, create tolerance and respect, and promote community safety. They've successfully established cooperative agreements between the school district and police department, including an anti-drug program and joint fundraising challenges. And, they've created the Community Partnership of Youth and Adults to mobilize community spirit and participation.

Abington was included on the America's Promise list because it has demonstrated true public leadership with regard to the needs of children. And, we in Congress must make sure to encourage and support these kinds of grassroots, community-based efforts, like that in Abington, because they play an important role in ensuring that our young people have the strength of character and tools necessary to succeed.

Mr. Speaker, I couldn't be prouder of Abington for the outstanding work it has done on behalf of young people, and I look forward to working too with area officials to make sure our neighborhood remains a safe and caring environment.

So again, congratulations to Abington on their selection as one of the 100 Best Communities for Young People. Keep up the good work!